

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /098 W
-----020085 041847Z /72

R 041731Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2521
INFO AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
AMCONSUL TURIN
AMCONSUL TRIESTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 8186

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IT, PINT
SUBJECT: LABOR LEADER RE MORO KIDNAPPING

REF: MILAN 0677

1. SUMMARY. CISL LEADER MARINI IS CONVINCED THAT THE VARIOUS LETTERS OF APPEAL WRITTEN IN ALDO MORO'S HAND DO NOT REFLECT MORO'S TRUE SENTIMENTS. HE ALSO FEELS THAT SOCIALIST LEADER CRAXI HAS PRIVILEGED ASSURANCES THAT MORO WILL NOT BE EXECUTED, WHICH EXPLAINS CRAXI'S ADVOCACY OF DEALING WITH HIS CAPTORS. HOW ALL OF THIS WILL TRANSLATE AT THE POLLS ON MAY 14 IS DIFFICULT FOR MARINI TO ASSESS: HE SEES PROS AND CONS FOR HIS PARTY (DC) IN CONNECTION WITH THE MORO CASE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER MATTER (SEE SEPTTEL ON CISL VISIT TO THE US), CISL NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRETARY MARINI WAS PREOCCUPIED WITH, AND DEPRESSED BY, THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE MORO KIDNAPPING. SAYING THAT HE KNEW MORO VERY WELL, MARINI INSISTED THAT THE LETTERS OSTENSIBLY EMANATING FROM MORO ARE NOT WRITTEN BY THE MAN HE KNOWS. THIS VIEW IS SHARED BY OTHERS WITH A LIKE KNOWLEDGE OF MORO, HE ASSERTED. IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, THE

CONTENTS ARE BEING DICTATED TO HIM. ACCORDING TO MARINI, MORO IS "JUST ABOUT THE LAST MAN IN THE WORLD" WHO WOULD BE MAKING THE KIND OF PITIFUL PERSONAL APPEALS, BASED ON FREQUENT REFERENCES TO HIS FAMILY, WHICH HIS LETTERS CONTAIN. THE MYSTERY FOR MARINI IS THE COMPORTMENT OF MORO'S FAMILY: THEY HAVE LOST THEIR NERVE, HE FEELS, AND ARE ACTING IN A MOST UNHELPFUL MANNER.

3. MARINI'S ASSESSMENT OF THE MOTIVES PROMPTING PSI SECRETARY CRAXI TO ADVOCATE AT LEAST LIMITED NEGOTIATIONS WITH MORO'S CAPTORS TRACKS VERY CLOSELY WITH THE TESTIMONY OF CORRIERE DELLA SERA EDITOR DEBELLA, REPORTED IN REFTEL. MARINI FEELS CRAXI HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT MORO WILL NOT BE EXECUTED, AND NOTES, AS DOES THE CORRIERE EDITOR, THAT THE BR MEMBERS ON TRIAL IN TURIN HAVE SELECTED A SOCIALIST AS THEIR LAWYER. MARINI FORCEFULLY OPPOSES ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE RED BRIGADES.

4. HE SAID HE IS LOOKING WITH SOME TREPIDATION TOWARD THE COMMUNAL AND PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD MAY 14. WHEREAS, UNLIKE OTHERS, HE CONFIDENTLY EXPECTED THE DC'S STRONG SHOWING IN THE JUNE, 1976 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, HE IS VERY UNSURE OF HIS PARTY'S PROSPECTS THIS TIME. HE NOTED THAT, ON THE ONE HAND, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS HAVE EVOKED MUCH SYMPATHY PURSUANT TO THE BRUTAL MORO KIDNAPPING; CONFIDENTIAL

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ON THE OTHER HAND, THE (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC) GOVERNMENT AND ITS SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE IN HALTING OR SOLVING THE BR DEPREDATIONS.

5. COMMENT. MARINI'S DEPRESSION OVER THE MORO CASE IS TYPICAL OF MANY OTHER LABOR LEADERS, REGARDLESS OF PARTY. SIMPLE INQUIRIES OF "HOW ARE YOU?" FREQUENTLY EVOKE GLOOMY RESPONSES WHICH REFER TO THE MORO SITUATION. GARDNER

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